

The Agricultural Research Service

Veterinary Medicine

Doctoral Program

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is the principal in-house research agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). ARS is charged with extending the Nation's scientific knowledge with 22 National Programs involving research projects in agriculture, nutrition, technology, the environment and other topics that affect the American people on a daily basis.

The ARS Veterinary Medicine Doctoral Program is a competitive educational program established to help resolve critical shortages of DVM/Ph.D. candidates for Veterinary Medical Officer positions in ARS. Candidates for this program will become full-time, paid employees of ARS while enrolled in a full time Ph.D. program with an accredited University. If selected into the program, ARS will pay for tuition, books and lab fees. Once students have received their Ph.D. they must agree to work for ARS for three full years. Students who do not complete the program will be required to reimburse ARS for expenses paid on their behalf. Benefits include: retirement and health insurance and tuition/fees.

Position Title: Student Trainee (Veterinary Medicine)

Series/Grade: GS-0701-09

Salary: \$43,365 - \$56,371 per annum

Location of Position: Lexington, KY

Announcement Number: ARS-VMO-5001-02

Opening Date: January 17, 2005

Closing Date: March 29, 2005

Description: Position is located within the “Forage-Animal Production Research Unit” (FAPRU), Lexington, KY. The incumbent will participate as a team member with scientists in all phases of research experiments which are designed to provide answers for how plant metabolites affect the fundamental biology of the animal-plant interface in mixed forage environments while pursuing a Ph.D. The successful incumbent will have the opportunity to pursue their Ph.D. in several University of Kentucky departments (e.g. Veterinary Sciences, Animal Sciences.) Specific duties will include exploring the effects of plant metabolites on nutrient intake, digestion, and metabolism and/or vascular development and function in gastrointestinal tract tissue. Special emphasis will be placed on metabolites of toxicological and/or nutraceutical significance. Duties will be accomplished using a variety of cell/tissue culture, molecular biology, whole animal and/or ultrasonic imaging methodologies. The incumbent is expected to have clinical experience with large animals (e.g. cattle and horses) and to have a general understanding of forage livestock production principles.

Eligibility Requirements: Candidates must have successfully completed a DVM/VMD program by the time the Ph.D. program begins and must be U.S. citizens. It is suggested that application be made to University of Kentucky University after selection is made for this position.

How to Apply: Submit a resume, curriculum vitae, or Optional Application for Federal Employment, OF-612, to the Contact Address. If submitting applications via E-mail, be sure to mail college transcripts separately and include the announcement number of the position vacancy. The application package must include:

- **Announcement Number**
- Full name, mailing address and day and evening phone numbers (with area code)
- Social security number
- Country of citizenship
- Veteran’s Preference (if applicable)
- Work experience
- Copy of college transcripts (including a description of any course not readily identifiable by the title)
- Specify exact date or expected date (month/year) of completed DVM degree requirements
- List of publications, presentations, honors/awards
- One page abstract of graduate dissertation
- A one page paper addressing why you want to pursue a Ph.D. in Veterinary Medicine
- Any certifications necessary to ensure qualifications for DVM in the United States.

Other Important Information: If you are a male over age 18 who was born after December 31, 1959, you must have registered with the Selective Service System (or have an exemption) to be eligible for a Federal job.

Veteran's Preference: If you served on active duty in the United States military and were separated under honorable conditions, you may be eligible for veteran's preference. To claim 5-point veteran's preference, you must attach a copy of your DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, or other proof of eligibility. To claim 10-point veteran's preference, attach an SF-15, Application for 10-Point Veteran's Preference, plus the documentation required by that form. For further details, call the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) at 478-757-3000 or TDD 478-744-2299 and select "Federal Employment Policies and Procedures" then "Veteran's Preference and Special Hiring Authorities for Veterans."

EEO Statement: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Accommodation: ARS provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the agency. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: For a copy of this announcement, please call Sue Dixon on 301-504-1397, or e-mail: sdixon@ars.usda.gov

Submit vacancy announcement applications to:
USDA, Agriculture Research Service
5601 Sunnyside Avenue
Room 3-1278-C
Beltsville, MD 20705-5103
Attn: Sue Dixon

FAX applications to: 301-504-1535
E-Mail applications to: scirecruit@ars.usda.gov

For employment information and current job opportunities:
Internet Address: www.ars.usda.gov
Dial-A-Vacancy: 301-504-1482